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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,666	07/15/2003	Ichiro Matsuyama	01272.020599	5892

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EXAMINER

HAMDAN, WASSEEM H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/618,666	MATSUYAMA, ICHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Wasseem H Hamdan	2854	NW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- a. Page 7, line 16 "114" should be "113"; and
- b. Page 7, line 19 the second "114" should be "113".

Appropriate correction is required.

Title

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Drawings

3. Figures 1-5 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to because box 101 of FIG. 6 should have the "printing apparatus" descriptive legend. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Connors (US Patent 6,591,076 B2).

Regarding claims 1, 8, 15, Connors discloses a printing apparatus (method and program)

[FIG. 1] comprising:

printing means [108] to which a print image having an area larger than the area of a sheet [215] is inputted to carry out no-margin printing [308]; and

output means [110] for dividing [311], on the basis of an instruction to divide one page of data into a plurality of pieces [320; 322; 324; 326] and print these pieces on respective pages [FIG. 4C; ;4D; column 11, lines 7-9], a print image corresponding to a sheet to be printed so that each piece of the print image corresponding to a piece of the sheet partly overlaps another piece of the print image [320-321; 326; column 9, lines 22-32] corresponding to an adjacent piece of the sheet [320-321; 326; column 9, lines 22-32], and then outputting these pieces of the print images [110].

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Regarding claims 2, 9 and 16, Connors discloses wherein said output means divides the print image so that the pieces of the print image corresponding to the adjacent pieces of the sheet overlaps a part of the outside of said sheet to be printed [311; 320; 322; 324; 326], and outputs these pieces of the print image [110].

Regarding claims 3, 10 and 17 Connors discloses wherein said output means divides the print image so that the pieces of the print image corresponding to the adjacent pieces of the sheet overlaps a part of the inside of said sheet to be printed [320-321; 324; 326; column 9, lines 22-32], and outputs these pieces of the print image [110].

Regarding claims 4, 11 and 18, Connors discloses wherein said output means subjects one page of print data inputted from input buffering means [104, please note according to the Microsoft computer dictionary (copy enclosed) a buffer is an intermediate repository of data, which exactly what the processor 104 in FIG. 1 does] to affine transformation, divides the transformed print data [311], and then outputs the divided print data [110].

Regarding claims 5, 12 and 19 Connors discloses wherein the number of pieces into which the indicated one page of print data is divided is inputted using positive integers for an x and y [320-322; 326, two pieces in the x direction and two pieces in the y direction] directions of the sheet.

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Regarding claims 6, 13 and 20 Connors discloses wherein the division numbers are calculated for the x and y directions, respectively, on the basis of an inputted value and the sizes of the sheet in the x and y directions, respectively [320-322; 326; column 13, lines 30-35].

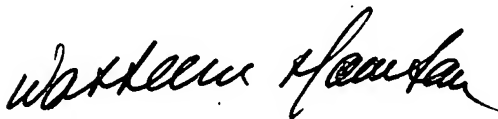
Regarding claims 7, 14 and 21 Connors discloses wherein said printing means can carry out printing using an outputted print image in which at least one side of the sheet has an arbitrary size, and said print image is outputted by indicating one side of the sheet to the printing means on the basis of said division numbers inputted using the positive integers f or the x and y directions . respectively [320-322; 326, two pieces in the x direction and two pieces in the y direction].

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wasseem H Hamdan whose telephone number is (703) 305-3968.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (first Friday off) 6:30 AM- 4:00 PM.

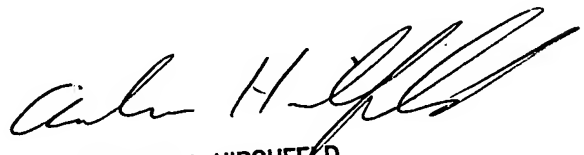
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Andrew H Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0956.



Wasseem H. Hamdan

January 14, 2004



ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800